

propriate procedures by which the organizations and regional commissions could provide essential support for the periodic intergovernmental review of the Mar del Plata Action Plan,<sup>58</sup>

5. *Recommends* that the necessary co-ordination in this field should be carried out within the existing resources of the United Nations Secretariat and that the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination should discuss interagency co-ordination as required;

6. *Requests* the external organizations carrying out activities at the country level to ensure that these activities shall be fully co-ordinated under the leadership of the resident representatives of the United Nations Development Programme, in consultation with and with the consent of the Governments concerned, in conformity with paragraph 34 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977.

*40th plenary meeting  
3 August 1979*

#### **1979/69. Control and limitation of documentation**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Taking into account* General Assembly resolution 33/56 of 14 December 1978,

*Recalling* Council resolutions 1979/1 of 9 February 1979 and 1979/41 of 10 May 1979, which set out a number of practical measures designed to reduce the volume of documentation, ensure its timely circulation in all the working languages of the Council and improve the format and presentation of Secretariat reports dealing with economic, social and related matters,

*Reiterating its deep concern* about the large number of documents issued by the Secretariat and being aware of the heavy burden thus placed on the Secretariat and delegations,

*Deeply concerned* about the increasing delays in the translation of documents by the Secretariat,

*Having considered* the second note by the Secretariat on the control and limitation of documentation,<sup>59</sup> prepared in response to Council resolution 1979/41,

*Aware* of the fact that the Secretary-General has drawn the attention of Member States, in his report on the rationalization of the procedures and organization of the General Assembly,<sup>60</sup> to the need to enhance the efficient functioning of intergovernmental bodies by reducing, streamlining and improving the documentation submitted to them,

*Conscious* of the urgent need to adopt additional measures to overcome the serious problems that are being faced in this context by the Council and its subsidiary machinery,

*Decides:*

(a) To approve the revised guidelines for the format and contents of the reports of the functional commissions and standing committees of the Council set out in the second note by the Secretariat on the control and limitation of documentation,<sup>61</sup> on the understanding that, in conformity with these revised guidelines, the functional commissions and standing committees will be able to introduce specific adjustments in

<sup>58</sup> Report of the United Nations Water Conference, Mar del Plata, 14-25 March 1977 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.II.A.12), chap. I.

<sup>59</sup> E/1979/94 and Add.1 and 2.

<sup>60</sup> A/34/320.

<sup>61</sup> E/1979/94, annex.

their reporting and recording procedures, in the light of their established functions and of the questions dealt with by them;

(b) To discontinue, for an experimental period of two years, the provision of summary records for the following subsidiary bodies of the Council:

Commission on Human Rights  
Commission for Social Development  
Commission on the Status of Women  
Commission on Narcotic Drugs  
Economic Commission for Europe  
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific  
Economic Commission for Latin America  
Economic Commission for Africa  
Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations  
Committee on Natural Resources  
Committee for Programme and Co-ordination  
Committee on Science and Technology for Development  
Committee on Review and Appraisal  
Commission on Transnational Corporations  
Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities;

(c) To insist that the Secretariat should circulate the documentation in all the working languages six weeks before the opening of the sessions of the Council and its subsidiary organs;

(d) To request the Secretariat, for the purposes of a stricter application of rule 13 (4) of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, to inform the Council and its subsidiary bodies, in the relevant annotated agenda, which documents have not been issued in accordance with the six-week rule, with a full explanation of the reasons which prevented their circulation; the reports on meetings concluded twelve weeks or less before the opening of the session of the Council shall be circulated as soon as possible after the conclusion of such meetings and the Council shall be informed at the outset of the session of the dates on which they are scheduled for circulation;

(e) To authorize the President of the Economic and Social Council to draw the attention of the General Assembly to the measures taken in 1979 by the Council in response to Assembly resolution 33/56.

*39th plenary meeting  
2 August 1979*

#### **1979/70. Follow-up to and implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Considering* that the Mar del Plata Action Plan on integrated water resources development and management,<sup>62</sup> adopted by the United Nations Water Conference, contains recommendations and resolutions dealing with a wide spectrum of subject areas and activities relating to water, including assessment, use and efficiency, environment and health, policy, planning and management, education, training and research, the management of natural hazards, and regional and international co-operation,

*Recalling* that the Action Plan was approved by the

<sup>62</sup> Report of the United Nations Water Conference, Mar del Plata, 14-25 March 1977 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.II.A.12), chap. I.